

"A Yankee Go-Getter"

Synopsis

*Story by Clifford Howard
and Burke Jenkins
Succeeded by Duke Worne*

THE CAST

Lucia Robilant } . . . NEVA GERBER
Vera Robilant }
Barry West . . . Jimmy Morrison
Nicholas Lanza . . . Jos. Girard
"Tronto" . . . Ashton Dearholt

DIRECTED BY
DUKE WORNE

BARRY WEST is a struggling young author. New stories he turns out daily, but no one wants to buy. The final blow comes when, with a few pennies left in his pocket, and his room rent overdue, his faithful typewriter is taken from him for non-payment. It is then Barry decides to live the part of one of his characters.

He goes forth seeking adventure which he believes lurks around every corner. While along the street fully believing that fortune smiles on him who grins, Barry finds a pocketbook filled with green-backs. His delight is short lived, however, for an excited stranger, breathlessly claims the pocketbook and dashes away with it before Barry knows what has happened.

While he is grinning over the prank fate has played on him, a beautiful young girl accosts him as if greatly worried and looking for something. She tells him of a lost pocketbook and realizing immediately the trick played on him by the mysterious stranger, Barry leaves the girl standing by his grip at the curb and dashes after the claimant of the pocketbook. His Yankee grit serves in good stead again and he overhauls the unknown, secures the pocketbook and rushes back to the girl. But the mystery is deepened when he finds she has disappeared. A street urchin reports her having suddenly left in an automobile with friends.

In the pocketbook Barry finds a picture of the girl and it suddenly dawns on him that she is the one and only girl. He agrees that love at first sight is not a myth. With nothing to guide him but the photo, he determines to find her and return the money. But his own problem is still unsolved.

Then comes an ad in an evening paper advertising for a good looking young American willing to earn \$10,000. Barry unceremoniously makes his application for the job through the office window of Nicholas Lanza, the advertiser. He gets it and the terms are that he marry Lanza's young niece, Lucia Robilant. Taken to Lanza's sumptuous home he is introduced to Lucia and is startled to find her the girl of the picture.

The scene shifts to a den of political plotters in another quarter of the city. Ruling the band of schemers is a gritty little woman known as "La Rouge."

"La Rouge," whose real name is Vera Robilant, is a cousin of Lucia. This Lucia does not know, and while Nicholas Lanza, guardian of Lucia and her fortunes, is planning to clandestinely marry her off to Barry in order to secure her legacy, her cousin, "La Rouge," is also scheming to obtain through her relationship and her startling resemblance to Lucia a share of the money to carry on their political propaganda.

Nicholas Lanza is the first to partially succeed in his plans. Due to the mutual attraction that had sprung up between Lucia and Barry at the time of their accidental meeting. Lanza's scheme is made easy when the romance between the couple develops into full blown love. He loses no time in securing a license and they are quietly and happily married at Lanza's home. But as the preparations for marriage are being made, "La Rouge's" scheming is beginning to take form. She succeeds in having her few faithful henchmen kidnap Lucia and the same night install herself in the Lanza home masquerading as Lucia. The remarkable resemblance she bears to Lucia carries the subterfuge through perfectly. Neither Lanza nor Barry suspect. Barry secures the license; the ceremony takes place and "La Rouge" becomes his wife.

In the meantime Lucia has managed to escape from the hut in which she is imprisoned in the mountains. The next day Barry comes upon a secret opening in the library wall of the Lanza home. He follows out the secret passage which ends up in an underground room. In this room at the time are gathered a gang of men and women being addressed by Lanza. Barry is dumbfounded and speechless with surprise when he hears Lanza say: "The fortune to which my niece, Lucia Robilant was heir is now mine. As you know, she is Italian born. By her marriage to an American she has become an American citizen and therefore lost her rights to the inheritance. As her next kin I now inherit the fifty million lira and I dedicate it to our great cause." Barry without revealing his presence goes back upstairs to the girl he believes is Lucia. He reveals the vile plot to her but she only laughs amusedly and says: "You thought you tricked me, did you? Do you know who I am? I am not Lucia, I am Vera, known as 'La Rouge,' the leader of the great Internationale."

This turn of events again leaves Barry floundering. He goes downstairs just in time to see the real Lucia rush into the house accompanied by the police. She tells Barry that she is the real Lucia.

In the meantime, "La Rouge," upon Barry's information, goes to the underground room through the secret passage. There she dramatically proclaims herself as "La Rouge" and informs Lanza that his clever plotting has been in vain. Lanza and his crowd are surprised at this announcement. He immediately regains his composure and announces that if she is "La Rouge," he is Tsarski, the chief of the notorious Internationale. Unknowingly they had been working at cross purposes for the same object. But just as this is being realized, the police, headed by Barry, breaks in on the scene. A fierce fight through the secret passage and up through the house ensues before Tsarski, "La Rouge" and the rest of the gang are subdued, and made prisoners.

As "La Rouge" is being led away she flings tauntingly at Barry: "Any how, you proud American, you are married—to me." Barry replies that he is not worried; that marriage under false pretense is void. Lucia registers in her face that she is glad when she hears this and Barry loses not a moment to bring the romance to the culmination deferred by their adventures.

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